



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND
950 JEFFERSON AVENUE
FORT EUSTIS, VIRGINIA 23604-5700

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

ATCS-S

15 JAN 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR TRADOC Leaders, Trainers, Soldiers, Employees, and Family Members

SUBJECT: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday Safety Message

1. On 21 January 2013, we celebrate the birthday of a great American, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Many of our Soldiers, civilian employees, and Family members will celebrate this holiday by traveling, spending time with Family, or enjoying recreational activities.
2. Past experience shows that long holiday weekends are especially hazardous periods for Soldiers. Motor vehicle accidents continue as the leading cause of accidental death, so please take time to remind Soldiers of their responsibilities when operating a motor vehicle. Winter weather can be especially treacherous, and the importance of remaining alert to conditions cannot be overstated. Even under the best of conditions, accidents can happen, even to good drivers. While we cannot control the actions of other drivers, we can mitigate their potential impact by using our seat belts and driving defensively. Excessive speed and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol greatly increase the potential for motor vehicle accidents and can lead to criminal charges, serious injury, or even death.
3. Involved leaders make a difference. Let your Soldiers know you care. Identify those Soldiers who tend to exhibit "at risk" behavior and step in to channel these behaviors in a more positive direction. Also, remain vigilant for the signs of Soldiers facing a life crisis and ensure they get the help they need. Whether the loss of a Soldier is the result of an accident or a suicide, it's still a loss.
4. Commanders and leaders at all levels must remain involved and committed to the safety of our Soldiers. Best wishes to all for a safe and pleasant holiday.
5. Safety Starts Here! Victory Starts Here!


ROBERT W. CONE
General, U.S. Army
Commanding